



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

South Asia Earthquake

November 25, 2005 - Update



Photo: USAID

USAID Administrator Andrew Natsios visits earthquake survivors in the Mehra tent camp.

U.S. GOVERNMENT DEEPENS COMMITMENT TO PAKISTAN

USAID Administrator Andrew Natsios announced an increase in the overall U.S. commitment to Pakistan for earthquake assistance to \$510 million. This includes \$300 million in relief and reconstruction assistance, \$110 million in military in-kind support for relief operations, and at least \$100 million anticipated from U.S. private contributions. Natsios led the U.S. delegation to the November 19 Reconstruction Conference in Islamabad.

"President Bush and the American people remain absolutely committed to the relief and reconstruction of Pakistan. From the first hours and days after the earthquake struck, USAID has been on the ground moving humanitarian assistance to the Pakistani people," said Natsios. "I have told the people I've met that the United States remains focused on the urgent needs of the Pakistani people as winter approaches and that we stand as a friend in the long term reconstruction of your country."

EXTREME WEATHER SHELTERS ARRIVE

Earthquake survivors in Puthian Village, Rawalpindi and Neelum Valley now have a 3,000 square foot mobile hospital complex, a three-tent school and 136 new temporary homes.

These structures, designed for extreme weather, arrived just in time for the Himalayan winter. They are valued at \$4.2 million and were donated by Alaska Structures, a U.S. firm based in Washington State. USAID transported the structures to Pakistan to give survivors much needed shelter and health care.

Residents enthusiastically took part in building their new igloo-style houses. Each is 20 feet x 12 feet and seven feet high, with two windows and a solid front door that locks. The houses are equipped with electrical systems, beds, wooden floors and carpets to ensure a comfortable and safe living environment.

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Photo: USAID

Alaska Structures staff and earthquake survivors working jointly to build family units.



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Earthquake Update Continued

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The Government of Pakistan and Pakistani staff from the Johns Hopkins Medical School and School of Public Health provided equipment for the hospital complex. With 40 beds, the hospital will help meet the health care needs of earthquake survivors. It provides a sanitary environment for health care in an area lacking those facilities.



Photo: USAID

Children displaced from Azad Kashmir and the North West Frontier Province in a tent school supported by USAID

TENT SCHOOLS ENABLE LEARNING TO CONTINUE

To recover, children need to return to normal activities from trauma. USAID has met this need by providing tent schools and supplies in camps for earthquake victims. USAID's assistance has included tents, equipment, school bags, books and paper.

The children are happy in the schools, where the teachers try not to talk to them about the past. They are happy to make new friends from other places and to study with new books and new teachers.

FAST FACTS:

Government of Pakistan estimates:

Death toll: 73,320

Injured: 69,392

Government of India estimates :

Death toll: 1,308

Injured: more than 6,600

U.S. Assistance as of November 25, 2005:

Total USG Humanitarian and Reconstruction

Assistance Pledged: \$510,000,000

USAID has provided more than \$54.8 million in humanitarian assistance, including 19 flights carrying relief supplies to Pakistan and more than \$600,000 in assistance to India.

USAID provided funds to the UN, other international organizations, and supports 12 international NGOs in Pakistan and India. This includes \$19.3 million in response to the UN Flash Appeal. Specifically, this includes:

- \$3 million in shelter relief
- \$2 million in water and sanitation
- \$2 million in health programs
- \$12.3 million for humanitarian relief operations (airlifts, food, logistics, administration)

For more information on the earthquake and USAID's work, please see "South Asia Earthquake" at www.usaid.gov.

**For information on giving visit:
www.southasiaearthquakerelief.org**